



## Survivor-Advocate, Advocates for Change program

### Position Description

<b>Position Title:</b>	Survivor-Advocate, Advocates for Change (Volunteer)
<b>Location:</b>	Tasmania, state-wide
<b>Status:</b>	Volunteer
<b>Hours:</b>	Casual as negotiated with Engender Equality
<b>Reports to:</b>	Advocates for Change Coordinator and CEO

#### About Engender Equality

Engender Equality has been established since 1987 and is a known and trusted specialist service for people who experience family violence. With offices around Tasmania, delivering tailored services, Engender has a well-established reputation for relevant and meaningful work in the family violence sector.

Engender Equality works within an intersectional framework, which includes consideration of all barriers to services and other activities.

#### About Advocates for Change

The Advocates for Change program positions victim-survivors of family and sexual violence as experts, who drive initiatives focused on gender equality, social change and the primary prevention of family and sexual violence. This project is tailored to Tasmania's specific environment, which has a decentralised population located in many small, tight-knit communities

To address gender inequality and family violence in Tasmania, Advocates for Change will:

- Adopt a community mobilisation model built on the value of lived experience voices. This strengths-based approach is recognised as an important technique for communities that are marginalised and often denied a voice in decision-making.
- Challenge social norms and practices that support violence using local activism.
- Target the condoning of violence and other anti-social behaviours, while also promoting and respecting community self-determination.

Advocates for Change is inclusive, relevant and intersectional and will empower people in the Tasmanian community to be part of decision-making, drive new initiatives and to claim ownership of the program. Advocates for Change has a part-time Project Coordinator who oversees media and public speaking advocacy requests and supports the Advocates in their work.

## Position summary

This position is voluntary/unpaid. The Advocates for Change survivor-advocate position is appropriate for victim-survivors of domestic and family violence. This can be intimate partner and/ or other family violence. The role involves telling your story publicly in order to contribute the expertise and humanity of your experience to the public in order to educate and advocate for an end to violence.

Advocates are supported with a 4 short-day training program as well as ongoing organisational support in telling their story and linking it the broader context of family violence. By telling your story alongside the primary drivers and primary prevention strategies, it contributes to dispelling the stigma and secrecy of the experience of domestic and family violence, and becomes in its own right, part of the primary prevention strategy.

The 4 day training as well as the ongoing organisational support of Engender Equality will ensure survivor-advocates have the skills, knowledge and support to speak publicly about their experience.

## Requirements

- Not a current client of Engender Equality
- Have lived experience of intimate partner and/or family violence.
- Are 2 years post the relationship
- Feel ready and safe to publicly discuss your experience of violence
- Be 18 years and older
- Be willing and available to speak to the media (with identifying details disguised) and/or to speak publicly about your experience
- Reside in Tasmania
- Not be involved in ongoing legal proceedings related to the experience of violence
- Be available to attend the media advocacy training on the following dates 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 between 9:30 am and 2:30 pm.

## Selection process

People applying to participate in this project will go through a risk assessment and safety planning to ensure readiness to participate safely. Participants are expected to align with Engender Equality's Values Statement. Spots in this program are limited in numbers and not all applicants will be successful in securing a position.

## Engender Equality's commitment to diversity:

The expertise, lived experience and cultural wisdom of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, First Nations, LGBTIQ+ people, migrant, culturally diverse and women with disability are valued by Engender Equality and applicants from these groups are strongly encouraged to apply (as are people with parenting responsibilities). People from all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

## How to Apply

To apply please download, print and complete the [Expression of Interest](#), by **5<sup>th</sup> October**. Send completed form to [advocates@engenderequality.org.au](mailto:advocates@engenderequality.org.au) with subject line ATTN: EOI Survivor-Advocate